

Department of Veterans Affairs
National Cemetery Administration

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Filming in a National Cemetery

Family Members/Public/News Media

- Filming or photography within the cemetery will not interfere with normal cemetery operations, disrupt the peaceful ambience of the cemetery or violate a family's expressed desire for privacy.
- Filming or photography of individual headstones and markers, committal services and burials by family members, the news media or the public will be allowed if done in a respectful manner.
- News media should contact cemetery staff in advance to conduct a news story or to cover a committal service or interment.
- Restrictions on news media may be implemented by cemetery staff in order to comply with the wishes of family members, to maintain decorum or enforce VA policy.
- News media are not required to reimburse the cemetery for expenses incurred while covering a newsworthy event in the public interest.

Entertainment/Commercial Requests

Filming or photography for entertainment or commercial purposes is permitted under limited circumstances.

- The film company must contact the cemetery staff in advance to request permission and schedule the date/time of the filming.
- A written VA agreement must be signed by the film company before filming may begin.
- Film companies are required to reimburse the cemetery for use of the site and government expenses associated with filming.
- Filming or photography within the cemetery will not interfere with normal cemetery operations, disrupt the peaceful ambience of the cemetery or violate a family's expressed desire for privacy.

Other Information

- Political activities, including filming of campaign ads, are not permitted on cemetery grounds.
- Cemetery management retains the right to approve, disapprove or halt filming or photography that interferes with normal cemetery operations, violates a family's expressed desire for privacy or depicts VA inaccurately and/or Veterans negatively.